

What is a language?

LECTURE
SUMMARY

PRE-PROGRAMMING

Covered in this lecture:

Explaining programming languages

- ▶ Programming is a way to write instructions for a computer to understand and work with
- Computers speak machine code
- ▶ **A programming language is a set of rules you have to follow in order for your computer to understand you**
- Programming languages are similar to human languages. They are only good for software or hardware that is designed to understand them
- ▶ Programming has developed over the years as more and more people contributed to it
- Even though newer languages are more efficient, a lot of products (ex. operating systems) we use are still based on old languages

See you next lecture!